### Freedom of Worship.

A bill is now pending in the Legislature requiring that all persons in reformatories and penal institutions who belong to any particular form of faith shall be entitled, while they are restrained of their liberty in such institutions, to the attendance of clergymen and to the services of religion peculiar to those denominations, subject, of course, to all needful regulations for the order and discipline of the respective prisons or reformatories.

This seems to us in every way a proper and reasonable bill; and we observe with some regret that the managers of the House of Refuge in this city strenuously oppose its passage, while one of them, the Hon. John Jay, denounces the bill as designed to propagate the religion of the Vatienn.

As for the religion of the Vatican, it would certainly be an immense benefit to the individuals concerned and to the public likewise, if every criminal in the State and every person restrained with a view to his reforma tion could be earnestly and thoroughly imbuod with that religion. The public security, the peace of society, and the progress of good morals would be wonderfully promoted if that form of the Christian religion could be brought to control the minds and the lives of all the inmates in the House of Refuge and of every person confined in any public prison. This, however, is too much to hope for; but it is not extravagant to say that where a criminal has been brought up a Catholic, a priest would be much more likely than a Protestant to reach him with the influences of religion; and a man must be a bigot indeed who would not wish that those influences should be brought to bear in the way to render them the most effective, or who would prefer that a man should remain a criminal rather than that he should become a Catholic.

As for the question of right, the taxes are paid by Catholics as well as by Protestants. and the law guarantees an equal protection to every form of religious faith. Mr. JAY, however, contends that it will be inconvenient to admit the Catholic clergy into the House of Refuge; but why should it be any more inconvenient than it is to admit Protestant clergymen? The hours of their visits and services are all fixed by regulation, and the only change that would be necessary would be the providing of suitable places and rooms for the Catholie services, just as they are now provided for

It would, we think, be very much wiser if, instead of contending for an exclusive system of management, which cannot be justifled on any rational grounds, the gentlemen charged with the direction of the House of Refuge should associate with themselves a few Catholics of high character and standing, and should, of their own accord, allot to the priests of that religion the same liberty of access and the same opportunities of celebrating public worship which they now allot to Protestants alone. By so doing they would remove all reason for controversy and remove a cause of complaint which is perfectly well founded.

## The Dynamite Scare in London.

We print elsewhere, in a cable despatch from a London correspondent, an account of the sensation produced not only in the British metropolis, but throughout the United Kingdom, by the attempt to blow up the building in which are situated many of the Government offices. As a matter of fact no lives were lost by the exseems out of all proportion to the exciting and it did not form a good appetizer. cause. On the face of things there is no res son why this striking demonstration of the destructive powers of dynamite should create more alarm or be invested with more political significance than the explosion of the gas works at Glasgow, which there seems to be some ground for attributing to the same hand.

There is not yet a jot of evidence tending to fasten the responsibility for this act of vandalism upon any individual person or any society or party. So far as we know anything about its aim or authorship, it may have been the crime of an isolated crank. The fact that no members of the Ministry specially odious to Irishmen were at all likely to be in the building at the time of the explosion seems to dispose of the theory, too hastly adopted by the London press, that the outrage was the work of Irish agitators, incensed by Mr. GLADSTONE's rejection of Mr. PARNELL's proposed amendments of the Land act. Such a supposition must, thus far at all events, be pronounced entirely gratuitous, not to say malignant, and the wild comments of the Times and other London newspapers may be brushed aside as unworthy of serious attention. Had a similar act been perpetrated in Washington. and proved equally harmless to human life, very little heed would have been paid to it. and we should have smiled at the suggestion that a veritable panic could be engendered anywhere by such a trivial incident.

have certainly failed to show that the crime had any political significance, or ought to make a deeper impression on the public mind than any one of the numerous foolish and futile attempts to assassinate Queen VICTORIA. But, partly because the building in which the explosion took place was near the Houses of Parliament, and partly because recent investigations in Dublin have shown that certain Irishmen have recourse to Nihilistic methods, the members of the imperial Legislature have evinced a degree of apprebension which forcibly recalls the shock produced by the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, and the whole population of the British metropolis show an inclination to clothe the unknown incendiary with the traditional and grotesque terrors of Guy Fawkes. If a single desperado, by means of a dynamite grenade, which he could carry in his coat pocket, can thus convulse the British empire, there would seem to be some method in the madness of those Fenian conspirators who proclaim their intention and their ability to extort from the GLADSTONE Ministry by means of a few bombs, the independence of Ireland.

Up to the present time the London police

That the cowardly crew of so-called Fenian which has its headquarters in New York, and from the safe side of the Atlantic preaches a dynamite and shotgun cru sade, could have had nothing to do with the attempt to blow up the Government offices in London is conclusively demonstrated by the eagerness with which they claim the credit of the performance. They see in the incident a chance to wring a few more dollars from the working men and

But had they really expended even so much to purchase the single bomb used in London, they would be profuse and fervent in their declarations of non-complicity. Mr. O'Don-ovan Rossa has not the least desire to figure as the respondent to a demand for extradition, and if English newspapers could be made to comprehend with what contempt and ridicule his proclamations and pretensions are regarded in this city and throughout the United States, they would pura stop to the wretched drivel about American sympathy with Irish rufflanism and rascality.

We trust that the villainous author of the recent explosion will be promptly discovered and brought to justice, just as we hope that every man implicated in the atroclous murder of CAVENDISH and BURKE will be sternly dealt with. In this country we feel nothing but detestation for assassins and for dynamite politicians. We should be glad to see them arrested, wherever they can be found, and consigned to the fate which they deserve. But meanwhile we cannot but regard it as premature and absurd on the part of English public opinion to assume that every useless act of violence or incendiarism must needs belong to Mr. PARNELL's programme, and be openly or tacitly sanctioned by Irish-American patriots.

### Thirteen at Table Together.

About a year ago thirteer men of this city banded themselves together for the heroic

purpose of exploding an old superstition. From time immemorial it has been re garded as unlucky to see the new moon for the first time over the left shoulder. Even wise men who have thus obtained their first glimpse of the moon, have been unable to conquer their annoyance at the mishap. They would have been happier if the crescent had appeared to them over the right shoulder. Many a man has joyfully discovered that he was putting his shoes or stockings on wrong end foremost or wrong side out in the morning, for he knew that that was called a good omen for the day. People not specially superstitious have been greatly depressed when they broke a looking glass, for that accident foretold the death of a near friend, according to the believers in omens.

In some countries it is considered lucky to touch the hump of a hunchback without his knowledge, and people who have tried it tell how marvellously well the omen has worked with them. We all know that the spilling of salt at table is apt to cause gloom; that when the cheeks or ears burn, the inference is that some one is talking of the person so affected; if the burning is on the left side, ill, if on the right side, good.

But of all omens, perhaps the one most generally feared is that of thirteen at table. If thirteen people dine together, the superstition is, one of the number will surely die within a year. Everybody has heard how often the omen has been fulfilled, and even very cool-headed and sensible men are pretty sure to feel uncomfortable if it is discovered that the ominous thirteen are gathered about the table. A gloom is cast over the feast, and thereafter the mirth is forced. To avoid such a catastrophe, hosts have searched for an additional guest in great haste, a child has been brought in, a stranger even admitted, or one of the thirteen has prudently been called away. There are, indeed, few men and women who like to sit down to a board at which there are thirteen.

It was to combat this almost universal superstition in Europe and America that thirteen brave and iconoclastic men sat down to dinner at the Knickerbocker Cottage in this city on the 13th of January, 1882. Exactly what were the feelings of the thirteen iconoclasts when they marched into the dining room no one knows. Doubtless, however, some at least of them wished at the moment that they were not there. They would have preferred a cold dinner at home to the elegant spread they were awaiting. Of course they felt so. It is not agreeable to think about the possibility or probability of your dying within a year when you are about to indulge in even the most royal of feasts. At least every man's thoughts were upon plosion, and the consternation manifested | the omen, whether he believed in it or not,

> Yet doubtless all the thirteen assumed great glee. They would have been ashamed to do anything else, for were they not iconoclasts? Nor is it probable that during the twelvemonth after, when they were reminded of the omen, they were all free from misgivings. In a word, those brave thirteen men sacrificed their peace, or some of it, for a whole year to shatter one of the fetters of superstition which still bind the most enlightened of the human race.

We congratulate them that the year has now passed, and that they are all alive and well, as we are informed is the case in the first annual report of the Thirteen Chib. made at their thirteenth regular meeting, on the 13th of January last. It seems that the club has been increased until it now numbers thirteen times thirteen members, or 169. There are also forty-six honorary members, among whom are included President ARTHUR and many other public men of prominence, besides four elergymen. During the past year eighty-four different members have sat down thirteen at table at the twelve monthly dinners of the club on the thirteenth of each month, and yet we are told in the report of the Scribe that "out of the entire roll of membership, original, life, active, and honorary, whether they have participated or not at the banquet table, not a single member is dead, or has even had a serious illness. On the contrary, so far as can be learned, the members during the past twelve months have been exceptionally healthy and fortunate."

We observe, however, that at the anniversary dinner at the Knickerbocker Cottage on the 13th of February, 1883, not all the thirteen who sat down to the original dinner were present, though all were reported alive and well. Perhaps the absentees did not care to tempt fortune another year. Three only of the original thirteen had attended every one of the thirteen banquets, and they are

the Scribe, the Marshal, and the Archivist. To carry still further their contempt for superstition, the Thirteen Club have searched for a haunted house to dine in, but have been unable to find it. They have also passed resolutions, which they have sent to Governors and Judges, urging that the superstition about Friday's being an unkicky day be no longer encouraged by fixing upon Friday for hangings. "From 'conquering to conquer," says the Archivist in his report, our club is sure to go on until the superstitions of an extinct age are obliterated from this and all succeeding ages."

But did it need any practical demonstration to show that there is nothing unlucky about putting thirteen at table? Of course thirteen is no more unlucky than any other number. The averages of life and death are preserved, no matter whether thirteen, three, or thirty dine together. No sensible man would deny that. Life insurance companies do not prohibit those they assure from dining thirteen together.

Yet people have always preferred to make up their dinner parties of either more or fewer individuals than thirteen, and they

eference. It is not because they actually elieve in the superstition, but they think it best to be on the safe side. "If, after all, there is a hell," asks an anonymous correspondent of M. RENAN every year; and the skeptic is glad to console himself with the thought that even if there is one, he cannot be justly condemned to it. And as to whims why, nearly everybody has them-the hardest-headed, the least imaginative of men, as well as the most fanciful woman. Demon stration will not convince them, for the

reason has nothing to do with such whims. We therefore do not agree with the Archivist of the Thirteen Club that those iconoclasts have successfully exploded the old superstition. They have simply demonstrated that a comparatively small number of men in the community can be found who will compel their whims to render obedience to their judgment, or who are not afraid of a particular bugbear. Some sort of superstition, however, we will be bound, every member of the club still cherishes.

The Thirteen Club, it seems to us, instead of exploding the superstition, has only helped to make it more general and more generally talked about. It has called prominent attention to a fanciful omen which people like to avoid, even if they laugh at it. They want to be happy when they feast together, and not to be thinking about death and evil omens. It is doubtful whether even the Thirteen Club have really taken unsfloyed delight in their dinners of thirteen. They have sacrificed some at least of their pleas ure to explode a really harmless superstition. Perhaps, too, there was a little bravado about their conduct, and that is a bad accompaniment of a dinner.

However, we record with pleasure that the Thirteen Club has again proved the obvious. It makes no difference about people's dying whether they dine thirteen or any other number together. Yet we predict that dinner parties of thirteen will not consequently be come fashionable.

#### He Is Still Doubtful About Marrying the Doctor.

It seems that our Western friend, who asked us about the wisdom and propriety of marrying a young woman who is studying to be a physician, is not entirely satisfied with our reply. He therefore states his case more specifically, thus:

"You are correct when you infer that I am not a rich young fellow. But let me go into details and you will see just the point of discussion between this young woman and myself. And, as I am raising a question which is of and myself. And, as I am raising a question which is of great importance, I hope you will bear with me.

"I love the young woman to whom I refer, and she loves me. I am a tradesman, with a taste for literature, earn from \$18 to \$20 a week, am domestically inclined, and believe that a wife should be a companion to her husband in all that the term implies.

"I have proposed marriage to this young woman, and a will easily the second of the second of

she will accept me, provided I agree to let her practise at her profession, to which she is devotedly attached. She says: 'I wish to do some good in the world. I de-test house drudgery, and I never will do it. Besides, I am not robust enough for it. I will marry you only on condition that you let me practice.' So, the question arises, in case I accede to her wishes, would my example

"I always had a horror of professional women, and here I can't live without one:
"I want my wife by my side, and she wants to rush

around to physic all the female earth. What is the fu ure woman to do! Is she to 'expound Scripture,' plend at the bar,' 'prescribe for the sick,' 'how! from the stump,' and 'hur! editorial thunder!' God forbid! But I suppose I'm too romantic."

It is not worth while for our friend to borrow trouble by worrying over the example he would set by his marriage. If the marriage should turn out well, his acquaintances might also be induced to get doctors for wives, if they could secure such prizes. But there would be no harm in that. If it should result disastrously, on the other hand, the union might perhaps serve as a warning in the neighborhood. The chances are, however, that the wed-

dings thereabouts would take place without

any reference to the experience of our corre-

spondent. Examples do not have much

effect on men's choice of wives. They usually marry the women they like, without regard to what their friends have done; though it is doubtiess true that the happiness of one wedded pair encourages matrimony. Forlorn bachelors observe, admire, and envy, and their single state seems to them all the more durable beside the conjugat bliss of which they are witnesses. So strong is the tendency to marriage, however, that even the wretchedness of the mismated does not check it. Every man is sure that his luck will be better, especially when he is in love. Don't fret about the example, then, you will offer in marrying the doctor. And as to horror of professional women, there is really no sound reason for that. Because a woman works for her living, she need not be any the less charming than one who is brought up to expect that she must be supported by some one else. It is true there is a great deal of talk about women's unsexing themselves: but, after all, that is something they cannot do. Women are not merely feminine physiologically. They are feminine in every respect, in their intellects and their emotions. and, we may say, in their moral sense. Whatever they do, they are always women, being very distinct from men in their qualities; and

it cannot be successfully pursued unless it is adapted to their conditions. If a woman works in a shop or a factory, if she is a clerk behind a counter, a telegrapher, a milliner, or a dressmaker, she may be, as we all know, just as lovely, charming, and feminine a creature as if she did nothing more than coddle a lap dog or busy herself only about inside household duties. Indeed, her work is likely to make her all the more interesting. Her wits may be brighter and her sympathies keener than those of a woman whose sphere is more restricted. Her mind may be less occupied with trifles, and perhaps she enjoys her home all the more and makes it all the more delightful because it means rest and peace after outside

hence, instead of their work unsexing them,

toll for her. And if a woman may work at a trade without damaging her lovable disposition and her charming domestic qualities, as many thousands of cases show she can do, why should a profession necessarily unfit her to be the companion of a man with a taste for literature and domestically inclined? Besides, if she is able to add to his \$18 or \$20 a week substantial fees earped by herself, they can afford to buy more literature and to make more agreeable the surroundings of their home. It is a great mistake to suppose that women are only charming in a state of pecuniary dependence; that, while they are fitted well enough for odd jobs about a house, they should have no active interests outside. That is a notion better suited to Oriental customs and prejudices than to this region at this time, when even fashionable women in New York engage in a multitude of outdoor activities.

"What is the future woman to do?" She will do whatever she can fit herself for, and will enter into every occupation where she can successfully compete with men. But cycles of time will pass away, and she will be the same feminine creature who now holds a nastery over the hearts of men, and who comnands love as sweetheart, wife, and mother. You can't change her, GoD be praised!

However, as to marrying the doctor, our friend must decide according to his own servant girls who have long been their dupes. | will probably continue to have the same | judgment and feeling. We can take no fur-

ther responsibility than that which may be involved in laying down certain general principles of truth.

For the Gin Mills.

Senator Kiehnan of Kings county has made a very creditable record as a legisla-tor. For this reason it is all the more difficult to see upon what grounds of public policy his Excise bill is founded. He proposes by this bill to legislate out of office the present Excise Commissioners of the city of Brooklyn, and to give the appointment of their successors to a Board consisting of the Mayor, the Auditor, and the Comptroller. The agreement of any two of these officers is sufficient to make an appointment. The pay of the present Commissioners is to continue until the full terms to which they were originally appointed shall expire.

This last provision directs a foolish and scandalous waste of the public money, and is in itself reason enough for beating the bill. It is also obviously open to censure as an unnecessary interference with the principles of local government which Mayor Low was elected to carry out, and which ought at least to have a fair trial.

But unless Senator KIERNAN has enemies who persistently misrepresent him, his object is to secure by this bill the support of the liquor interest in Brooklyn. He wants to succeed Mayor Low. And before he tries to get the nomination for Mayor he wants to have a grip on the saloons.

The bill has been falsely represented as a Democratic job. The only ground for this statement is the fact that the Auditor and Comptroller, in whose hands the appointment of the new Commissioners will be placed, since Mayor Low is opposed to the bill, are Democrats. One of the Commissioners whom the bill proposes to remove is also a Democrat, and the objections to the other member have nothing to do with his polities. Senator Kiehnan desires the removal of the present Commissioners because they are re-solved to limit the number of licenses. They have already refused licenses to a number of persons, and they propose to continue in that policy, which has the approval of the Mayor.

The Comptroller and Auditor are understood to be friendly to Senator Kiernan's pretensions. If this bill becomes a law, obedient Commissioners will be appointed. who will issue licenses right and left. Senator KIERNAN will become the champion and candidate of the liquor shops, and will depend largely on their support in his contest for the Mayoralty.

Economy, home rule, and decency-such are a few of the things against which this bill sins. It is a bad business for Senator KIERNAN to be concerned in.

# A Candidate Worth Having.

There is an idea in Indiana of making WILLIAM S. HOLMAN the Democratic candidate for Governor.

In Indiana, as in Ohlo, an unusual number of distinguished Democrats are now to be found. Mr. HENDRICKS, Mr. McDonald. Mr. ENGLISH, and Mr. VOORHEES all live in that State; but none of these would make a stronger candidate than Mr. HOLMAN.

Although a man of uncommon ability and personal force, Holman has never been a very prominent figure in Indiana politics; and yet he has served as a Representative in Congress during eighteen years, and has become famous there as one of the most persistent and aggressive antagonists with whom the extravagance and corruption of that body have been obliged to deal. By his unremitting opposition to jobs of all kinds he has become known as the Great Objector, and that title sticks to him as closely as Pig Iron does to the Hon, WILLIAM D. KELLEY of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Holman's presence in the House of Representatives has probably been the means of saving millions of dollars to the people of the United States, and we should be very sorry to miss him from Congress. But he possesses extraordinary merit as a candidate either for Governor or for any other office. He would make a great Governor and a Jacksonian President.

## The Acquittal in the Dukes Case-Pop

ular Indignation Against the Jury. If the question on trial in the DUKES case in Pennsylvania had been whether the defendant was an infamous blackguard or not. the popular indignation at a verdict of acquittal would be easily justified. The community at large could form as correct a judgment on that question as any jury. The

case was proved by the defendant himself. But the issue which the jury upon their oaths were bound to determine on the evidence before them was very different. In killing his victim had the accused man committed the crime of wilful murder? This issue it was the duty of the jury to try and to decide without respect to his guilt of other offences. A confessed seducer, detested as a beast by every right-thinking man and woman in the community, is still entitled to be fairly tried; and instead of yielding to the popular clamor which would convict him of murder because he had been guilty of seduction, every honest juryman was bound to resist the operation of any such influence.

We have little fault to find with those who think that the defendant deserved to suffer death for the wrongs he committed against the daughter of the man he afterward shot. It may be that there are forms of seduction so wicked and villainous that they demand capital punishment. But until the law imposes the supreme penalty for such offences, juries must not seek to enforce it under the guise of punishment for another crime. The people who condemn the DUKES jury virtually for not sending the prisoner to the gallows because of his helnous conduct toward Miss NUTT, should rather criticise the law which has not made such conduct a capital offence.

There is only one view that warrants the public indignation against the jury. If the evidence clearly established the defendant's guilt of the crime with which he stood charged, and the jury, either from ignorance or corrupt motives, disregarded that evidence by rendering a verdict of acquittal instead of conviction, then they merit the con-

demnation so freely expressed But how many persons are there, even in the county which was the place of trial, who are competent to form an opinion of any value as to the preponderance of evidence on the question whether the homicide was so premeditated as to constitute naurder or not? Few, if any, papers have published the proseedings in full, and even if a complete record of the trial had been extensively circulated, it could give little idea to outsiders of the appearance and demeanor of the witnesses and their apparent veracity or want of truthfulness on the stand. Nobody can judge of the weight which ought to be given to the statements of the several witnesses who testify upon a murder trial, except those who are present in court and actually hear the

The intimation that the DUKES ury was backed and tampered with is freely made. Our esteemed contemporary, the Evening Post, goes so far as to declare that "this is, of acquittal can be accounted for." Plainly let him well forth free.

It is only a "theory," so far as that journal

is concerned—that is to say, no evidence of corruption has been adduced; yet we ven-ture to suppose that this theory is thus approved by our contemporary without any information in detail as to the testimony upon the trial except the abridged newspaper reports, which cannot, in the nature of things, furnish an adequate basis for any

such judgment. Of course it is entirely possible that this lury went wrong, but the fact that they were firm enough not to follow popular clamor does not show that they did. A man might feel it his duty to acquit DUKES of murder and yet detest him heart and soul, as every decent man must. As yet, however, we have seen no satisfactory proof that this particular jury was dishonest, and the attacks upon the jury system to which the verdict has given rise are illogical and ill considered.

The Republicans of Rhode Island have sister, Mrs. McEiroy, and her daughter before they left last week. There were twenty-six nominated for Governor Mr. Augustus O. BOURN of Bristol, a wealthy manufacturer, and for Lieutenant-Governor OSCAR J. RATHBUN of Woonsocket, likewise a manufacturer. It would be very interesting if WILLIAM SPRAGUE should be elected, notwithstanding this array against him. President likes a Washington spring, the cil-mate is so soft and sunny. This town, unlike

One of the peculiar incidents of the weel In the courts was the ten-thousand-dollar verdiet in KATIE YUNKER'S suit against PETER HECEMAN for breach of promise of marriage It is said to be the largest verdict over rendered in the Marine Court. The jurisdiction of this court is limited to two thousand dollars, exwrongs, in which by a special statute the amount that may be sued for and recovered is made unlimited. The promptness with which the jury returned this verdict for the whole amount of damages claimed shows that they regarded the case as one of an aggravated nature, and reminds us of the verdiet in ALICE LIVINGSTONE'S SUIT AGAINST HENRY FLEMING.

There has been much talk about abolishing actions for breach of promise of marriage altogether, or of limiting the right of recovery to actual pecuniary loss, and legislation to this effect has been proposed in the English House of Commons; but all this has no disturbing effect upon the juries, who continue as emphatically as ever to express their condemnation of faithless lovers and their sympathy with deceived and deserted women.

If Wiggins had had the courage to predict fair weather for St. Patrick's Day this year, what a reputation as a weather prophet yesterday would have given him.

Sportsmen who, in the hunting season, often spend half a day wandering about the woods trying in vain to get a shot at a squirrel. will be likely to envy the Central Park keepers. who are going to shoot the gray squirrels in the Park to-morrow. Several years ago a few of these little animals were placed among the trees there, and now they have become so numerous that it is said to be necessary to destroy them for the sake of the birds, whose eggs they eat. It should not be forgotten, however that squirrels are quite as interesting and attractive in their way as birds, and therefore it is to be hoped that not all of them will be shot and fed to the big brutes in the menagerie.

An interesting little pamphlet on the com-Pressed air locomotive question, by Mr. Chas. W. POTTER, must be interesting reading to those unfortunates who have recently invested money in such enterprises. Four systems have been in the field in this direction, but the best results have been accomplished by the Hardis air locomotive, worked on the New York Elevated, when 19.1 cubic feet of air per ton per mile was consumed. This result was obtained after over six years of experiments, involving from \$70,000 to \$100,000, expended and irretrievably lost by a New York company. It appears that good results and bad results were ractically reduced to the same level by the fact that, in all systems employed, at least twothirds of the original power contained in the air was lost before it could be made serviceable as a motive power. Air may be stored in square inch, but it must be reduced considerably, say, for example, to 100 pounds, before it can be used in the cylinders of the locomotive

This is the season when the entomologist shakes the dust out of his insect nets, the botanist furbishes up his flower box, and the amateur astronomer polishes the eyepieces of his telescope. The first two look forward with impatience to the spring days, when the face of the ground begins to bloom and the air is filled with the humming sound of awakening life. and the third deprecates the appearance of the least cloud in the soft sky of the spring evenings, when the most splendid constellations in the heavens present themselves to his view. Men of science and poets meet on common ground when they praise the vernal glories of the year.

The whole problem of electric lighting having been reduced to the question of cost. all reliable calculations based on actual results must be welcome. On the 1st of January, 1882, a large railway station in California was lighted by a local branch of the Brush Electric Light Company. The dynamo was made to furnish forty lights, and worked by a fifty-horse power engine. Everything was made of the best material and put up by experienced workmen. Allowing six months to pass so as to permit the expenses to be cut down to a minimum, and the employees to be trained to the best efficiency, calculations were made for the months of June, July, August, and September, 1882, with the following result:

Average cost per month
Average cost per night
Average number of lights nightly
Average hours of lighting nightly
Average cost of one light nightly
Average cost per light per hour

Mr. SAMUEL PURNELL, who makes this report, comes to the following conclusion: Ho states that the local opinion was that while the station was brilliantly illuminated by electricity, and better than gas could possibly do it, yet that sufficient light could have been obtained from gas for half the money.

## THE SIGNAL SERVICE INQUIRY.

The Hasen Investigation to Steer Clear of the Howgate Mystery.

WASHINGTON, March 16.-The Howgate Ring ro watching the approaching investigation into Gen. fazen's management of the Signal Service with intense sterest. They are fearful that in some way Howgate's sethods will be overhauled. Howgate's subordinates with few exceptions, are in the bureau under Hazen. Those who are not are within reach. It is believed that at no time would there have been the slightest difficulty in exposing Howgate's methods and the extent of his in exposing Howgate's methods and the extent of his peculations, or in obtaining important information as to his confederates. The secret power which overmasters the so-called Department of Justice, throws the shield of safety around Howgate, and renders his residence here in Washington not only possible, but easy, is being exerted to prevent the inquiry from being extended beyond Hazen's power and management.

The character of Howgate's confederates may be indeed from the convenience of the second confederates of the second confederates in the character of Howgate's confederates may be indeed from the convenience of the second confederates in the character of Howgate's confederates may be

judged from the power they exert, not only shielding Howgate but dominating the Attorney General Howgate shared his plunder freely with others. Did one of the Ring need five thousand dollars, a voucher was prepared and the money was obtained. Did a speculator need capital, the same device furnished it. Howgate's pracice was to bring to Gen. Myer a handful of vouchers tice was to bring to Gen. Myer a handful of vouchers toward the close of the last day, when there was no time to examine them, even if there existed the disposition to do it. They were signed without examination, though, as is now known, not without many fears that all was

not right, yet without the will to ascertain the truth.

A practice of this kind was all the easier on Howgate's part the longer it went on. It was a step harder to re-trest from than to continue in. When the intelligence of Gen. Myer's death was received in Washington an official said to three others in the same room: "It has killed him at last!" The Rowgate mystery is one of the best kept within the knowledge of the present generation. Hidden from sight, yet almost within the shadow of the Capitol, as

many believe, he has been able to defy

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

such a striking attitude, that Mr. Tabor made

a bee line for the door, and kept at a respectful distance from the acting Vice-President dur-

ing the brief remainder of his term as Senator.

Vashington; her manners are very amiable

and her appearance is propossessing.

The President gave a farewell dinner to his

ersons at table. The President has been all-

ing ever since Congress adjourned; he has a cold scorns the doctors, works late and early,

and is a high liver. Nevertheless, he is as

healthy a man as one would wish to see. The

any other town, has a summer dress of grass

and foliage which it is now putting on. The

public squares, the terraces which the Govern-

ment has jealously reserved on the principal streets, are already green. The people in

charge of the water supply are kicking up the

dust as usual about the number of fountains

which have to be sustained during the coming

season, for Washington is the city of fountains.

It has thirty miles of shade trees planted at

regular intervals. At market here now one can

The new Mrs. Davis is extremely well liked in

Charms of the Capital-The Proceeded A Story of the New Mombe -The Baptists are erecting a church in Salt Lake City, almost under the shadow of the great Mormon Temple. They want \$10,000 for it, and ask the thousand Baptists each to send \$1 to the Home Mission rooms in this city. The Rev. Dwight Spencer, who is managing this enterprise, recently succeeded in building and paying for a church at Ogder. WASHINGTON, March 17.—When ex-Senator Tabor was about to be married he suspe similar intention on the part of the acting Vice-President, so he made the following proposal: President, so he made the following proposal:

"I say, Davis, we are both going to get married. I shall have a palace car to take me out
West, and suppose you and the future Mrs.
Davis should go along? Mrs. Davis-haw,
haw!—would be company for Mrs. Tabor."
Gossip does not mention the precise reply
given by Senator Davis, but it records that he

-The First Congregational Church, Kansas City, has rented a four-story house, to be used for medial and religious meetings, reading rooms, and a place on which Sunday school teachers may study their teachers. sons. A city missionary is employed by the church to look after people who are likely to be brought under the beneficent influences of these provisions for social comgot so red in the face, that his eyes snapped so viciously, and that he involuntarily assumed

fort and religious improvement. -From Los Angeles, where they make real wine from actual grapes, a cierical correspondent writes to the Ecqueeiss on the question of fermented or non-fermented sacramental wine. This brother objects to the newly expressed juice of the grape, either for sacra mental purposes or any other. Hasays that the useres approach to it in tasts is a tablespoonful of molasses stirred into a small tumbler of dish water.

-" What is promised to the righteous?" "What is promised to the righteous?"
asked a mild and amiable Sunday school teacher of a
small child at the far end of her class. "Eternal bilas,"
quickly responded the child. "Quite right, my dear
child," said the mild and amiable. "And now tell me
what is promised to the wicked." "Eternal bilster,
ma'am," was the prompt reply. The teacher pronounced
it theologically correct, but peculiarly expressed.

—The Independent publishes some unpleas-

ant things about the East Tennessee Wesleyan Univer sity. It charges that the university received money for the establishment of a normal department, but did not establish the department. It also charges that the profuse promises of its printed catalogues were never ful-filled, and that a "suitable building" rented by the trus-tees proved to be a dispidated cow shed which had twice been offered to some negroes for a school, but

which the negroes had the good taste to reject.

—A new book of church music is brought —A new book of church music is brought, before the public with the astounding statement, "Every piece practically tested by the author." This looks as if the author had determined to piay and sing the volume through, even if no other living sonl could be induced to do so. It is in pleasant contrast with some of the church and Sunday school music books with tunes so had that they convey the idea that the authors had It has thirty miles of shade trees planted at regular intervals. At market here now one can buy beautiful pots of blooming plants—geraniums, heliotropes, pansios, and violets—for 10 and 15 cents.

The Binines open the doors of thest \$60,000 house on Monday evenings to invited guests. Mr. Blaine has been buying pictures pel medi. He bought them in batches of twenty-dwo or thirty. It is said the house inside looks like the venering mansion doscribed by Bekens—it is brand new all over. Even the untiques an new, and Mr. Blaine is thinking of having some old family portraits painted and of buying an ancestral graveyard. A man here who bought a fine old house has successfully carried out a pleasing idea. He went to Maryland, to the old homestead of his family, and brought away some of the fine old wood carving. This he put into certain parts of the old house which he had bought, and which was of the same date, and the effect is wonderfully good.

Washington possesses a fhillmarmonic Society, which, although not quite squal to some others, is yet respectable in point of ability. Mr. Corcoran has requested them to sing Home, Sweet Home at the coremonics over the remains of John Howard Phyne in June. Mr. Corcoran bids fair to rival Peter Cooper in years and vitality. He manages a great fortuse and innumerable public bequests with the same dearness and vigor as if he were as instead of 55. He is one of the most active of the Washington snoument trustees, and attends overy meeting of the Board. He still takes some part in society, and says he want to live to see a Democratic President. He still takes some part in society, and says he want to live to see a Democratic President. He still takes some part in society, and says he want to the washington should be effectioned. A daughter of Sonator Beek married Mr. Corcoran's the montact of the most active of the Washington should be fire and supplied of sealth for the west and the great frau of 1877 affected both his health and spirits seriously, the lives in a fine substantial buy beautiful pots of blooming plants—ge-ranjums heliotropes, pansies, and violets—for never had the courage to try them, and that all the trial they had ever suffered was when some deaf and daush proof reader bestowed his careful attention on them to see if the types were set correctly.

-Some troublesome people in a pretentious brown-stone church recently succeeded in worrying their pastor away by saying mean things about him and making his life unhappy. They were much disgusted, however, when they found that he had received a call to a church at least twice as good as theirs. They had thought that their giving him the cold shoulder would result in the rejection, he wayer church acading a master. result in his rejection, by every church seeking a pastor The mistake of these troublesome brothers was in sup-posing that they were the most important people on earth. Instead of being the most important, it turned out that they were only the most uneasy and the mos

-The Christian Intelligencer, which has all along been known as one of the most stanch advocates of letting old-fashioned things remain as they were, wants the Presbyterians to amend their time-honored Westminster Confession of Faith. It says that "the phraseology of the Confession is certainly not such as would be adopted by a body of Christian men sitting down to-day to make such a formal expression of their (aith." This is admitted by almost everybody who knows anything about it, and yet it is also well known that the proposition to amend or alter a section or a sentence of that "Confession of Faith" would result in trouble which might lead to disruption of the Church.

-The Baptist church in Olean was for nerly heated by a furnace which burned gas instead o coal. When the building caught fire and was consumed, a few weeks ago, the Baptists thought it was the fault of the furnace; now they think the fire may have been the work of an incendiary. Instead of stopping to discuss the matter, they will at once rebuild. The old building was a twenty year-old wooden shell, considerably out of style, and was erected when the Baptists were poor Now the brethren are rich, and they want a church as good as any in town. Having collected the \$0,000 in-surance on their old building, they will at once proceed to put up a \$20,000 stone church, which will be an orna ment to the neighborhood as well as a means of grace t the Oleanders.

-Anna Kantz of Goshen, Ind., had been lame for a year, and could not walk, except with crutches. Dr. Cullis, the faith-cure man in Boston wrote to her, saying that on the 20th of February, at 8 o'clock, he would pray for her immediate restoration to octocs, ne would pray for ner immediate restoration to perfect soundness. A little before 3 o'clock she trief to walk, but her troublesome foot gave her such excruciating pain when she put it to the floor that she was obliged to discontinue her attempts. Then she sat down in her easy chair and read a few Paalms from the Bible. To her surprise and joy, she found at 3 o'clock that she was able to walk without her crutches and without pain. One of the most remarkable features of this alleged faith cure is that the difference in time between Bostos and Goshen was of no account. Dr. Cullis prayed by Boston time and Miss Kantz awaited her cure according to the clock at Goshen. This is one of the mysteries of faith cure which the wise may be able to explain.

-The Lee Avenue Church in Brooklyn. astical experiences, is again called on to suffer the loss of its pastor. Brother Craft's pastorate, like that of each of his predecessors, has been short. He some time ago succeeded in getting rid of the party who had some spects a victory for alleged orthodoxy, it was a barren victory, for the departing members were those whose pecuniary contributions had done much to keep the con-cern from going under. One of the principal difficulties just now is that the membership, although said to be as orthodox as Pastor Crafts can desire, has not mone enough to keep the church affoat. Pastor Crafts, who came from the Methodist Church to take charge of this Congregational enterprise, now gives way, in order that somebody may be called who can be paster without, as he puts it, the disadvantages he labors under.

-An Episcopal Divinity School in Colorado is talked of, its object being to train young men for the ministry who will be likely to labor in the rough fields of the West. Complaint is made that the ministers fur-nished by the theological seminaries in this part of the country are too much of the "tenderfoot" order, and can neither stand the hardships of a new country nor make much impression on the people they have to meet there.

A young clergyman who is overparticular about his necktie, his surplice, or his polished boots, will make very little headway among miners, land dealers, and cattle raisers. While it is not necessary that a minister should be a rough person, it is in the highest degree imterms with the roughest. It is essential that he be free from the practice of putting on airs, for nothing will so quickly ruin his influence. The proposed Divinity School thinks it sees its way clear to an endowment of \$20,000, but that is a mere drop in the bucket to begin with. The

income of it would not support more than one professor.

clever contrivance to draw double his pay. His wife went to Europe, and he gave her for her expenses notes upon his pay as it became due. Meapwhile he went to the War Department and drew it himself. Exposure followed, but, after the usual manner of the Army Ring here, he was allowed to resign instead of being dismissed, as he had powerful influence to back him. Mr. Washburne, the late Minister to France, was expected to come on to Washington to urge Capt. Hartley's reinstatement in the army, and several other prominent polliticians, it was said, were in the scheme to get him back. Owing to the short session and the strict attention to routine business, Capt. Hartley's name did not come before Congress at all. Ho disappeared, and the next heard of him here was his suicide in New York. His wife was a very pleasing woman, and, although the grandaughter of an Indian woman, was without a trace of Indian blood in her appearance. Her grandmother lived in a tent and wore a blanket as late as two years ago.

Gen. Sherman has gone to New York to meet Gen. Stone on his arrival from England and bring him back to Washington. Afterward Gen. Shorman will go to the Pacific coast, Gen. John W. Foster has started for St. Louis to meet Gen. Diaz and escort him here. Some fine entertainments will be given to Gen. Diaz besides the usual state dinner.

The deathbed repentance of the Forty-seventh Congress introduced a Gradgrind economy into everything in which Congressmen themselves were not directly interested. They became frugal in regard to matches for the department and saving of dusting brushes. They allowed the Coast and Geodetic Survey throe mops and a tin pail. The mops gave out before the session closed, and an appropriation was asked for an additional one. What! cried the committee, "another mop? Why you are always wanting mops. You will ruin the country buying mops. Here, when you see we have reduced the revenue \$77,000,000, you come and shamelessly ask for two mops! Well you may have one but that must last you until Cong home from the Roman Catholic and from some of the Episcopal churches will be seen carrying little sprige or branches of evergreen in their hands. These are distributed to the worshippers in memorial of the waving of palm branches by the Jewish multitude to welcome Jeans as He rode on a colt into the city of Jerusalem. The excitement in regard to Jesus was at its height. It was Passover season, and devout Jews from every part of Judea and Galilee were at Jerusalem. Some looked on Jesus as a great prophet and a miraculous healer of disthe Jews," who was to overthrow the Roman authorit and establish the Israelites in power under Himself as King. So they were ready to cry "Hosanna" Many of the same people who composed this crowd of welcomers were a few days later found among those who cried: "Away with Him! Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" The days which follow between to-day and Easter are known as those of "Holy Week." Especially in the Roman Catholic and in many Episcopal churches the services are of thrilling interest and deep solemnity.

-The Deacon Stephen was the first man who fell a martyr to his Christianity. The story of his martyrdom, as recorded in Acts via, 54-60, and vii., 1-4, forms the International Sunday School lesson for to day. The last lesson told of Stephen's arrest and arraignment before the Council, or Sanhedrim. This lesson pictures the result. Stephen's defence was in vain. The angry Jewish leaders were determined on having a vic They had been annoyed beyond measure at the progress the Christian faith was making, and at the boldness of the men who proclaimed it in apits of their prohibition. Having found stephen technically guilty of blasphemy under the Levitical law, they had what seemed to be a fair excuse for putting him to death. The sentence was passed, and put into execution so immediately that the very witnesses who had testified to Stephen's alleged blasphemy were on hand, in compliance with an old custom, to cast the first stones at the condemnet man. The legal punishment was stoning to death. It was performed outside the city walls. Saul of Tarsus, who was at this time a bitter prosecutor of the Christians, held the outer-clothes which the executioners of Stephen threw off. Stephen bore the murderous onslaught with Christian bravery, even praying for his murderers as they but him to death. The second they put him to death. The word "martyr" means "witness." Stephen's martyrdom was the beginning of a long and terrible persecution which was carried on against the Christians, and which resulted in the martyrdom of great numbers. Notwithstanding all this the Christian Church increased greatly, both in numbers and in bold determination. Many of the believers were scattered into various parts of the surrounding country. Wherever they went they preached the Gospel, and so, by the very persecutions which scattered the band of Christians, as immense amount of missionary work was done.

# To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: You ask

A Plea for the Gallows.

whether the gallows tends to prevent crime, and in face of the fact that four of McGloin's chums find their way to jail within a week of his hanging, it is a very pertisent inquiry. Now, as an adherent of that good, honest old institution, the gallows, I ask for it fair play. It needs no more, and it is entitled to no less. Do not sup-plement the hangman with the undertaker and his fan-faronade of flowers, prayers, processions, plumes, hearses. A funeral like McChoin's destroys the lesson of acGloin been put into a deal box, quicklimed, and buried McGloin been put into a deal box, quicklimed, and buried in the precincts of the jail a few hours after the hangman finished his excellent work, the lesson would have been affective. Do not allow your murderers to be buried with pomp like martyrs and heroes. Bury them as murderers, blot them off the face of the earth where on they are unfit to live. Let trials be speedy—fair, of course, by all means—put an end to the law's delays, and have done with these new trial dodges. Let the sentence be passed immediately on the back of the verdict and let the hanging follow in a fortnight or three weeks at latest. Give the gallows justice. Let there be no pit grimages to the surines of murderers. I will back the gallows to get the better of the murderers, if you will keep it going and give it the fair chance it is entitled to. But abolish the law's delays and the fashionable tuneral A private execution and a public funeral do not bracket well together. Things get mixed in the minds of criminals.

Janeaux Citt, March 17.

The Latest Turkish Knight.

From the London World.

Possessors of the Meditidish medal will be proud of their newest colleague. According to the Sopption Seaste. "His Imperial Najesty. the Sullan, has been graciously pleased to confer the decoration of the fourth class of the order of the Meditidish on Mr. Burguy, shief bootmaker to his Majesty."

Dr. Jayne's Expectorant is an old-time family medi-ine, safe and effectual in all cases of coughs and colds, gold to must throng and more effections made.